

to bring together her love of cooking and her desire to bring happiness to the lives of others. She named her ice cream shop after her daughter Abigail. Better known as Abi, she can often be found in the shop's kitchen sampling her mother's latest flavors. Abi, who has a peanut allergy, inspired her mother to create a selection of flavors free of nuts and legumes, to allow as many people as possible to enjoy her creations.

In addition to being legume and nut-free, Maren wanted to provide ice cream that customers loved without artificial flavors or preservatives. Abi's is technically a specialty kitchen, as everything is made by hand and on-site. The kitchen is open and customers are invited to observe the process of how the ice cream is made. In pursuit of her goal for all-natural, great-tasting ice cream, Maren works hard to ensure that her creations can be enjoyed by all. By exclusively using natural and in-season ingredients, customers are able to enjoy healthy and seasonal ice cream. Maren is always experimenting with new and unique flavors for the community to enjoy. While they have a selection of staple flavors, Abi's also creates rotating seasonal flavors to ensure that their customers always have the opportunity to try something new and innovative. Whether it is their "fan favorite" malted vanilla with coffee and chocolate chips or just a simple ice cream sandwich, her customers always remain confident in Maren's all-natural recipe. In each one of her creations, Maren prides herself on using as few ingredients as possible and believes that the simplest recipes can be the best tasting. As a result of their hard work and dedication, Abi's Artisan Ice Cream was named a top 10 ice cream shop in Idaho by OnlyInYourState.

Maren's ice cream shop is also heavily involved in the Coeur d'Alene community. Aside from being locally owned and operated, the ice cream shop works closely with the Coeur d'Alene Downtown Association to organize and contribute to the annual Coeur d'Alene street fair. In addition, Maren's small business supports other local businesses in the area by making a concerted effort to procure their ingredients from local sources. Their ice cream can also be found around Coeur d'Alene in several coffee shops and art galleries. Art from these galleries is displayed on the walls of Abi's, and coffee from local coffee shops are used in Abi's creations. This is a great example of a small business having an integral role in the community and supporting other groups and enterprises to create the best experience possible for their local customers.

The State of Idaho is proud to be a home for creative small businesses like Abi's Artisan Ice Cream. Through their commitment to providing hand-crafted, flavorful ice cream, customers are able to enjoy an excellent product, produced in their own community. Earlier

this year, Abi's celebrated its 2-year anniversary.

I would like to congratulate them on their achievement and extend my sincerest congratulations to Maren, Abigail, and all of the employees at Abi's Artisan Ice Cream. I wish you nothing but the best and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DENNIS NIXON

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the career of one of Rhode Island's most respected ocean and coastal experts, my friend Dennis Nixon. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a deep commitment to Rhode Island and ocean and coastal issues more broadly.

Mr. Nixon first arrived at the University of Rhode Island in 1975 to pursue his master's in marine affairs. Thankfully for us, he received his degree and then decided to stay in the Ocean State as a professor at the university. Since then he has been a mainstay on the University of Rhode Island's campus, teaching courses in maritime and coastal law and publishing over 50 articles and a casebook on the topic.

He served as associate dean of academic Affairs for the College of Environment and Life Sciences and then for 4 years as associate dean for research and administration at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography. In that position, Mr. Nixon managed the school's beautiful Narragansett Bay campus and the 185-foot National Science Foundation research vessel *Endeavor*. Mr. Nixon also serves as the risk manager and legal advisor to the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System, based at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography, which coordinates among oceanographic universities for research time on vessels like *Endeavor*.

His influence does not stop at URI; he has lectured on 6 continents and in more than 25 States. Mr. Nixon was instrumental in the creation of the unique dual degree program in marine affairs and law between the University of Rhode Island's Department of Marine Affairs and Roger Williams University Law School. Outside academics, he cofounded Point Club, an insurance cooperative for fishing vessels.

I first encountered Mr. Nixon when the tanker *World Prodigy* crashed into Brenton Reef, causing an oilspill. I was a young staffer in the Rhode Island attorney general's office, and Mr. Nixon joined the team as our maritime law expert. Later, I was U.S. attorney when the tug-and-barge *Scandia/North Cape* caused another massive oilspill, and I turned again to Mr. Nixon's professional advice. We worked well together and became friends.

In 2013, Mr. Nixon was appointed director of Rhode Island Sea Grant. His deep connections to Rhode Island and expertise in ocean and coastal issues have helped Rhode Island Sea Grant

further its reach into the State's coastal communities and raise its profile nationwide. Among its priorities, the State's Sea Grant Program is currently supporting research into the causes and consequences of harmful algal blooms and the effects of the Block Island Wind Farm on fishing interests and home values. Mr. Nixon's regard in the State was on display when he was tapped to moderate the marine debris symposia put on in conjunction with the Volvo Ocean Race's stopovers in Newport in 2015 and 2018.

His drive to ensure Rhode Island maintains its leadership in marine scholarship, development, and conservation is evident throughout his career. Mr. Nixon obviously cares deeply about ocean and coastal resources and the fishermen, businesses, and communities that rely on these resources. He is even a fairly presentable sailor himself. For over 40 years, the Ocean State has benefited from Mr. Nixon's passion and leadership, and for this sincere dedication to Rhode Island and coastal communities around the world, I stand today to recognize and salute him.

Fair winds and following seas, my friend.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2083. An act to allow for the taking of pinnipeds on the Columbia River and its tributaries to protect endangered and threatened species of salmon and other nonlisted fish species.

H.R. 4294. An act to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to provide a criminal penalty for unauthorized disclosures by officers or employees of a Federal agency of certain living will and stress test determinations.

H.R. 5841. An act to modernize and strengthen the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to more effectively guard against the risk to the national security of the United States posed by certain types of foreign investment, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH) announced that on today, June 27, 2018, he has signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 931. An act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a voluntary registry to collect data on cancer incidence among firefighters.

At 4:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5515) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military